

VZCZCXRO3854
OO RUEHCHI RUEHCN RUEHDT RUEHHM
DE RUEHML #1164 1350903

ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 140903Z MAY 08
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0712
RUEHZS/ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS IMMEDIATE
RHFMUNA/USPACOM HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS MANILA 001164

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EAP/MLS AARON COPE
STATE PASS USAID

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EAID](#) [SOCI](#) [PREL](#) [RP](#)

SUBJECT: The Philippines' Humanitarian Response to Cyclone Nargis

REF: STATE 48651

¶1. Per reftel request, Mission contacted the Philippine National Disaster Coordinating Council, which stated that the Philippine Department of Health formed a 15-person medical staff, to immediately go to Burma once Burmese government officials allow the team to enter. Further, the Philippine government will contribute a logistical coordinator from the Philippine Department of Social Welfare and Development and a public health professional from the Philippine Department of Health to join the ASEAN Emergency Rapid Assessment Team. The ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management is coordinating visas for the team members. The Committee told the team members that they will leave for Burma in 48 hours (which started yesterday). However, as of this afternoon, the team has not received visas.

¶2. Three Philippine National Red Cross staff members are now in Burma. Their entry was facilitated by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

KENNEY